

CHAPTER 1

**THE ARMORED
PERSONNEL CARRIER****Section I. INTRODUCTION****1-1. GENERAL**

The mechanized infantry will often fight in conjunction with armor to form a combined arms team.

The armored personnel carrier (APC) provides the infantry with mobility similar to that of the M60 tank, but the APC has less firepower and protection.

Mechanized infantry complements tanks by providing a dismount capability that enables the company team to reduce obstacles and to hold ground.

1-2. FUNDAMENTAL FACTORS

There will be times when infantrymen can observe the battlefield, fire their weapons, and be protected by the vehicle's armor, but the APC is not invulnerable. The armor does protect against some small arms fire and shell fragments; it does not protect against tanks or antitank guns, missiles, or rockets. This means that the infantry leader must carefully analyze every situation and weigh the advantages and disadvantages of mounted and dismounted combat. The APC is highly vulnerable to the predominant tank and fighting vehicle threat; therefore, many combat tasks can only be performed dismounted.

In the offense, the APC allows the infantrymen to fight mounted as long as possible and to dismount when confronted by close terrain, obstacles that prevent movement, or a strong antiarmor defense that cannot be bypassed or suppressed.

In the defense, the APC allows the infantrymen to fight mounted or dismounted. The decision to fight mounted or dismounted

is dependent upon the situation and the required mobility.

These fundamental factors are synonymous with the five basic rules of combat secure, move, shoot, communicate, and sustain.

Secure.

Use cover and concealment.

Establish local security and reconnoiter.

Protect the unit.

Move.

Establish moving element.

Get in the best position to shoot.

Gain and maintain initiative.

Move fast, strike hard, finish rapidly.

Shoot.

Establish base of fire.

Maintain mutual support.

Kill or suppress enemy.

Communicate.

Keep everyone informed.

Tell soldiers what is expected and why.

Sustain.

Keep the fight going.

Take care of soldiers.

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Section II. THE APC AND ITS CHARACTERISTICS

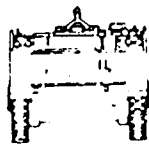
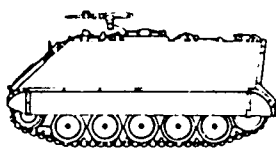
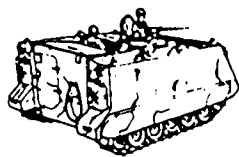
1-3. GENERAL

The APC is lightweight aluminum, air-transportable, air-droppable, and amphibious. This section discusses the vehicle's characteristics and gives a brief overview of some of its capabilities.

1-4. CHARACTERISTICS

The APC has the following characteristics:

Figure 1-1. APC CHARACTERISTICS.



WEIGHT, COMBAT	24,986 LBS	11,334 KG
WEIGHT, NET	21,866 LBS	9,918 KG
LENGTH	191.5 IN	4.87 M
WIDTH	105.75 IN	2.69 M
HEIGHT	98.25 IN	2.50 M
HEIGHT, MIN REDUCIBLE	79.5 IN	2.03 M
MAX SPEED	42 MPH	67.6 KM/H
MAX SPEED WATER	3.6 MPH	5.8 KM/H
RANGE	365 MI	578 KM
GROUND PRESSURE	7.9 PSI	0.56 KG/DM
WIDTH OF TRENCH CROSSING	66 IN	1.68 M
VERTICAL OBSTACLE CROSSING	24 IN	.61 M
SLOPE CAPABILITY	60 %	60 %
SIDE SLOPE CAPABILITY	30 %	30 %
FUEL CAPACITY	95 GAL	360 L
CREW	1	1
PASSENGERS	12	12

1-5. MOBILITY

The mechanized infantry will often fight in conjunction with armor to form a combined arms team.

The maximum road speed of the APC is 42 miles per hour (mph). Under favorable terrain

conditions, it can travel cross country at speeds similar to those of the M60 tank.

1-6. APC PROTECTIVE ARMOR

The APC's protective armor does not have the same protective capability as that of the M60 tank, but it will protect the infantry from some small arms fire, hand grenades, and shell fragments.

The APC can minimize the threat of anti-armor weapons by —

- reducing exposure time,**
- suppressing or destroying enemy weapons, and**
- using the cover and concealment offered by the terrain.**

1-7. FIREPOWER

The APC's main armament is the caliber .50 heavy machine gun. This weapon provides each vehicle with suppressive firepower and a light-vehicle-killing capability

Each squad is also equipped with a Dragon antiarmor missile, which can be fired from the vehicle or dismounted and fired from a ground position.

The platoon will also have:

- M60 machine guns.**
- M16 rifles.**
- M203 grenade launchers.**
- Squad automatic weapons.**

NOTE: There are various other munitions available as required, such as light antitank weapons (LAW), grenades, and mines.

1-8. COMMUNICATIONS

The APC's communication system provides the platoon with communication during either mounted or dismounted operations.

All platoon vehicles are equipped with an AN/GRC-160 radio that can be backpacked in an AN/PRC-77 configuration. Additionally the platoon leader's vehicle may be equipped with two AN/GRC-160 radios or with one AN/GRC-46 and one AN/GRC-160.

The platoon leader, platoon sergeant, and each of the three squads are also equipped with an AN/PRC-88.

1-9. WATER-CROSSING CAPABILITY

The APC can swim most water obstacles with minimal preparation. The vehicle has a maximum swimming speed of 3.6 mph. The vehicle's trim vane requires about 2 seconds to be extended.

1-10. LIMITED VISIBILITY CAPABILITY

The APC carries a variety of limited visibility observation devices. These sophisticated surveillance, target acquisition, and night observation (STANO) devices increase the platoon's ability to accomplish its mission during limited visibility

STANO devices that may be available to the platoon include:

- Binoculars — superior to naked eye daytime or night.**
- AN/PAS-6 metascope — infrared light source used for reading, detecting, or signaling.**
- M19 periscope — infrared periscope used to aid the driver while driving the vehicle.**
- AN/PVS-2 or AN/PVS-4 — mounted on M60, M16, or M203 weapons.**

AN/TVS-2 — mounted on caliber .50 heavy machine guns.

AN/TVS-5 — mounted on caliber .50 heavy machine guns.

AN/PVS-5 night vision goggles — goggles used for performing tasks at

night (map reading, driving, maintenance).

AN/TAS-5 Dragon night vision sight (6x magnification).